



U.S. Department of Justice

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## **PRESS RELEASE**

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### **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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#### **Public Affairs**

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### **Former D.C. Firefighter Cadet and Her Boyfriend Sentenced for Roles in 2007 Shooting and Carjacking**

**Washington, D.C.** - Two District of Columbia residents, Frank D. Johnson, also known as "Pacman," 28, and his girlfriend, Dominique L. Taylor, 23, a former D.C. Firefighter cadet, have been sentenced for their respective roles in the non-fatal shooting and carjacking of an individual on May 15, 2007, in the 200 block of 36<sup>th</sup> Street, SE, U.S. Attorney Ronald C. Machen Jr. announced today. On March 18, 2010, Superior Court Judge Robert I. Richter sentenced Johnson to a total of 180 months in prison (15 years). Johnson was found guilty by a Superior Court jury of aggravated assault while armed, carjacking while armed, and related weapons offenses. Earlier, on February 25, 2010, Judge Richter also sentenced Dominique L. Taylor to 48 months in prison after she was found guilty of perjury, obstruction of justice, and accessory after the fact by the same Superior Court jury which convicted Johnson. Judge Richter suspended all but four months of Taylor's sentence and placed her on two years of supervised probation.

According to the government's evidence introduced at trial, on March 15, 2007, Taylor was a cadet at the D.C. Fire and Emergency Medical Service Academy. Johnson and Taylor, who had a 10-month-old daughter by another individual, were dating at the time. That afternoon, Johnson picked up Taylor's 10-month-old daughter from daycare and drove her to Taylor's apartment building in the 200 block of 36<sup>th</sup> Street, SE. After Johnson and the child arrived, Taylor took the child out of the car and into her residence, and then came back outside. Moments later, at about 4:30 p.m., the father of Taylor's daughter drove up in a black and orange Camaro. He stopped his car in the middle of the street, left the engine running, got out his car, and approached Johnson, who at that time was sitting in the front passenger seat of Taylor's car. After the father had words with Johnson, he turned towards the apartment building to speak to Taylor. As he turned and began to walk up the steps, Johnson got out of Taylor's car and shot the father in the back. The bullet went into the father's back, ripped through the blood vessels in his pelvis, and came out his abdomen. Johnson stood over the father and shot him again in the arm. Johnson then taunted the father, got into the father's Camaro, and sped off.

A few hours later, Johnson drove into 200 block of W Street, NW, in the father's Camaro and joined his friends and associates who were having a cook-out. Johnson is well known in the LeDroit Park neighborhood. After spending some time at the cook-out, two of Johnson's associates got into the father's Camaro and Johnson drove the car to the 900 block of W Street,

NW, to attend another cook-out. The police spotted the Camaro and ultimately arrested Johnson's two associates, but Johnson got away. A few hours later, the father came out of emergency surgery and identified Johnson as the person who shot him.

When the police first arrived at the crime scene, Taylor was not rendering any first aid to the father of her daughter. After emergency medical personnel arrived, Taylor attempted to leave the scene. She was stopped by detectives and was interviewed at the Sixth District police station. The interview was videotaped. Several uninvolved witnesses told the police that Taylor was outside, in uniform, before, during, and immediately after the shooting and carjacking of the father. When she was interviewed by the police, however, Taylor said that she was inside her apartment building before and during the shooting, and that she had no idea who shot the victim. Several months later, in August of 2007, Taylor testified before the grand jury. Taylor testified that on May 15, 2007, Johnson picked up her child from daycare and brought her to Taylor's apartment building. Taylor testified that 25-30 minutes later, she went outside to take out the trash and Johnson was gone. Taylor testified that when she went outside, the victim pulled up and started yelling at her. Taylor testified that the victim was shot by an unknown assailant after she ran back inside her building.

Despite Taylor's false testimony, the grand jury indicted Johnson for shooting and carjacking the father and a trial date was set for May 19, 2008. Two days before the trial date, on May 17, 2008, the father was shot multiple times at a gas station by two masked men. The father was on his way to meet Taylor when he was shot. Johnson told an inmate at the D.C. Jail that he had his men shoot the victim so that he would not come to court.

Investigators also uncovered numerous recorded phone calls showing that Taylor and Johnson had conspired to obstruct justice and commit perjury before the grand jury to cover up Johnson's crimes. The recorded phone calls also showed that Johnson and Taylor both despised the victim and that they were disgusted that he had told the police who had shot him. Taylor also visited Johnson at the D.C. Jail 27 times between Johnson's arrest in June of 2007 and the May 19, 2008 trial date. The D.C. Fire and Emergency Medical Services Department terminated Taylor's employment following her convictions.

In announcing these convictions and sentences, U.S. Attorney Machen praised the work of all of the Metropolitan Police Department Officers who responded to the scene of the shooting and carjacking and investigated the cases. He specifically praised the work of Officers Raymond Bond, Jarlath Cady, Christopher Cartright, William Dempster, Richard Fesser, Grant Greenwalt, George Klein, Mark Lakomec, and Mary Turner. U.S. Attorney Machen also praised the work of Detectives Douglas Carlson, Robert Kacelowicz, Floyd Meyers, Joseph Newell, Milton Norris, Ucraina Paniagua, Brian Wise, and William Xanten. He also praised the work of Litigation Support Specialist Thomas Royal and paralegal Lynette Briggs. Finally, U.S. Attorney Machen praised the work of Assistant United States Attorney Alessio D. Evangelista, who prosecuted the cases.

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